

B<sup>1</sup>  
a retainer releasably coupled to the container for holding the spool within the container; and  
means for rotating the spool within the container.

Please add claims 12 through 17 as follows:

--12. The device of claim 1 wherein the side wall of the container includes a rim opposite the base and wherein the retainer is releasably coupled to the rim of the container to hold the spool within the container.

13. The device of claim 12 wherein the retainer includes a locking rim which surrounds and engages the rim of the container to releasably couple the retainer to the container.

Sub E<sup>2</sup>  
B<sup>2</sup>  
Sub F<sup>2</sup>  
14. The device of claim 1 wherein the side wall defines an interior and wherein the retainer includes an overlapping edge, wherein the retainer is releasably coupled to the container so that the overlapping edge protrudes into the interior to overlap the top of the spool to hold the spool within the container.

15. The device of claim 1 wherein the foot plate has a generally flat surface extending below the base of the container.

Sub G<sup>2</sup>  
16. The device of claim 1 wherein the mounting holes are spaced equidistantly about the perimeter of the container.

Sub F<sup>3</sup>  
17. A device for storing an elongate flexible member having a length, a first end and a second end, the device comprising:  
a container having a base, a sidewall, and a first access hole;  
a spool disposed within the container, the spool comprising:

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a bottom resting within the container, a top having a second access hole, and a column between the top and bottom, the column having a surface for winding the length of flexible member around, wherein the second end of the flexible member passes through the second access hole and wherein the first end of the flexible member passes through the first access hole of the container;

means for rotating the spool within the container; and

means for concentrically retaining the spool within the container while permitting the spool to be removed from the container.

#### REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on April 7, 1994 in which the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 2. Claims 3-11 were withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner under 37 CFR § 1.142(b). Claims 12-17 are added. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-2 and 12-17 are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance.

#### I. OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAWINGS AND DISCLOSURE

The Examiner objected to the drawings asserting that elements in Fig. 7 should be appropriately cross-hatched. As suggested by the Examiner, Fig. 7 is amended to appropriately cross-hatch certain elements. In addition, during review of the drawings, it was noticed that reference numeral 56 in Fig. 2 lacks a lead line while reference numeral 102 in Fig. 2 was incorrectly labeled. It was also noticed that although bottom and top bearing races 160 and 164 were generally indicated by reference numerals 160 and 164, individual races 160A-160C and 164A-164C (referred to on page 12, line 24-line 27 and on page 13, line 10-line 13) were not labelled with reference numerals in Fig. 7. To correct these inadvertent errors, a lead line is added to reference numeral 56, and reference numeral 102 is replaced with reference numeral 68 in Fig. 2. Reference labels 160A-160B and 164A-164B are added to Fig. 7. A separate paper requesting approval of the drawing corrections is being submitted to the Official